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well represented by a logarithmic curve. This is the first law of growth in *Ceratophyllum* and may be stated as follows: "On any axial division of the plant the mean number of leaves per whorl increases with each successive whorl in such a way that both the absolute increment and the rate of increase diminish as the distance (in units of nodes) of the whorl from a fixed point increases."

The second law of growth is that of diminishing variability. The whorls of leaves produced by a growing point are formed with ever increasing fidelity to type. "The growing point appears to be influenced in its morphogenetic activity by its previous experience."

To the students of evolution, who are now concerning themselves primarily with experimental and statistical investigations of variation and heredity, the importance of such a detailed study of intra-individual variation, correlation and differentiation will be apparent. In the original paper they will find a wealth of analyzed material.

J. A. HARRIS

Cotton.—*Its Cultivation, Marketing, Manufacture, and the Problems of the Cotton World.* By Charles William Burkett, Professor of Agriculture, North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and Clarence Hamilton Poe.¹—This volume of over three hundred pages is interesting from many points of view. Its illustrations are reproductions in a sepia tone of much effectiveness and the contrasts, especially in the case of white cotton bolls are very pleasing. Moreover many of the sketches are likely to be of permanent interest as matters of record, notably those which give some notion of fast-vanishing methods of carding, spinning, and weaving cotton by hand. The authors have spared no pains to make the illustrations attractive and useful, and they have succeeded admirably. The text is clearly written, throughout, and it is well-arranged with respect to convenience of reference. Moreover, the facts as regards the botany, the agriculture, and the commercial relations of the cotton-plant, are carefully stated in such a manner as to be quite within the reach of the general reader, but we miss what ought never to be lacking in any book of reference,—an index. The value of this useful treatise would be enhanced tenfold by a copious alphabetical and subject index.

G. L. GOODALE

Notes.—Three new species of *Dendromecon* are described by Fedde in *Repertorium Novarum Specierum* of Jan. 15.

¹ New York, Doubleday, Page & Company.